

R E M A R K S

In the Office Action mailed 5/18/06, the Examiner required election of one of following groups: Group I, comprising Claims 1-15 and Group II, comprising Claims 16-33. The applicants hereby elect Group I (Claims 1-15) without traverse. The Applicants have cancelled Claims 16-33 in response to the restriction requirement. All amendments and cancellation of claims are made without acquiescing to any of the Examiner's arguments or rejections, and solely for the purpose of expediting the patent application process in a manner consistent with the PTO's Patent Business Goals (PBG),¹ and without waiving the right to prosecute the cancelled claims (or similar claims) in the future.

The Examiner has further required election of a species selected from UV/VIS spectrophotometry, Fluorescence spectrophotometry, MALDI-TOF-MS, ESI-oa-TOF, ion trap mass spectrometry, ion trap/time of flight mass spectrometry, quadropole mass spectrometry, triple quadrupole mass spectrometry, Fourier Transform mass spectrometry, and magnetic sector mass spectrometry. The Applicants elect ESI-oa-TOF mass spectrometry for initial examination. Claims 6 and 7 read on the elected species. Claims 1-5 and 8-15 are generic. Applicants remind the Examiner that upon allowance of a generic claim, the Applicants will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of the generic claim (C.F.R. 1.141).

CONCLUSION

If a telephone interview would aid in the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned collect at (618) 218-6900.

Dated: June 19, 2006



Tanya A. Arenson
Registration No. 47,391
MEDLEN & CARROLL, LLP
101 Howard Street, Suite 350
San Francisco, California 94105
608.218.6900

¹ 65 Fed. Reg. 54603 (Sept., 8, 2000).